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JUNE VON RUDIN

MS. VON RUDIN: Thank you. Before I begin, I need to apologize to our wonderful moderator for trashing him because my name disappeared.

MR. LAWSON: You didn't trash me.

MS. VON RUDIN: I tried. You proved that explosions come from human error, because my name disappeared. Also I apologize to you. I need to catch an airplane. I wanted to now submit a paper because - or a fax because we live -- our group lives near Diablo Canyon and out of respect to the people of Nevada, we really wanted to send a human being here to say that you're not alone, that not all of us are NIMBYs and that we support your opposition.

My name is June von Rudin. I thank you for this time. In the past week, I read William Gutenberg's report on the transportation of nuclear waste and I felt his sentence "decision-makers should develop mechanisms to recruit and develop points of view with which they may disagree" a very wise statement. My residence is in San Luis Obispo County in the City of Pismo Beach, California which is approximately ten miles downwind from the site of Diablo Nuclear Power Plant, one to have seventy-two commercial sites -- as you know by now how many -- that will be a contributor of waste if indeed there is a Yucca Mountain site.

I'm here to represent the organization Mothers For Peace, which has been a legal intervenor in Diablo's safety problems for two decades now concerning construction, licensing, operation of the plant. We've been involved in litigation and public hearings on the following issues: Operating license, seismic safety, county response plan, waste storage reracking, extension of operating license and rate and structure and deregulation.

Today I read a -- in the last three days, a shopping bag of techie material. I'm going to dispense with all that. What I want to do is color in just a small portion of those maps we've been seeing for years and make one community real to you with its problems of transportation.

Many of our members first joined our organization years ago because they believed we'd be creating a lethal product that would be legacy for many generations and we should not use technology until we have a clear vision of its consequences. Decades ago, when we first organized, we were considered misguided, uneducated and other names I will not repeat, but ironically today, January 11th, our County Board of Supervisors, because of its our 30th anniversary and advocates for the County, is issuing a formal proclamation honoring us. I say that only to tell you of our credibility and of our determination to keep working for you so that you're not stuck with this stuff.

1... [Having lived in Pismo Beach for thirty years, I have a good history for the social environmental aspects of the surrounding areas that include Diablo and any routes out from the area. I've seen many, many gifts bestowed on the community and tax money to a school district who now claim they can't operate given by the utility, Pacific Gas & Electric. As an individual, I cannot, I could not believe that it is right and just to open the gates now and send you the waste products from that well and entering Nevada, possibly endangering many California communities in the environment along the way. It should remain on-site with perpetual vigilance and monitoring.]

The beautiful coastline -- and it is beautiful -- that it was built upon was lost to us many years ago. A news article that quoted a PG&E official as saying that their responsibility ends when the stuff leaves the gate. This should be a very frightening attitude for all of us. The utility's actions are the first important step in a very, very complex process, one of the most difficult challenges fueled by modern technology. All the entities need to take responsibility as a team of experts and solve problems for all of us.

...2... The Environmental Impact Statement gives a generic analysis of national transportation modes and routes. Each plant will have a unique transportation problem and an Environmental Impact Report should be done for each area. Long-time San Luis Obispo County Supervisor and County Planner Evelyn Delaney, who will be sending in testimony by mail, as well, supports this necessity.

Our county and routes to the north and south by barge, rail line to Los Angeles, either way have unique hazards. They start with Avila Road, a small winding public road that leads from the gates of Diablo plant. Having done calculations and research on this road for years, Ms. Delaney states that the size truck needed for this transportation could not possibly use that road. From my own observations over the years, I know that the earth in that area gives way in a rainstorm and on numerous occasions without warning has blocked the road and has taken days at times to open it up and to get it intact. In fact, the plant workers need to stay overnight many times at the plant. They can't get home.

MR. LAWSON: Could I ask you in about thirty seconds, please?

MS. VON RUDIN: Wow.

MR. LAWSON: You're a little over five minutes as it is.

MS. VON RUDIN: I'm sorry. Let's see what to say.

...2 Okay. I'll skip down only saying that the area has changed. It's developed from the plant many miles south toward Los Angeles. It's no longer a rural area. The rail station where it would be a proposed loading has been unscaled, gentrified with restaurants, shopping shops and so forth. It would be virtually impossible to get a big truck in there unless it was a lot of construction. Barges have been mentioned. I saw the city pier from my city float by me in a storm years back. Boats have been smashed up on beaches. California is a very, very unusual state. It's tranquil and the next minute, it's completely hazardous.

...1 If you think that we're all thrilled about sending you our waste, you're wrong because we don't want to. It's dangerous for us, too. We want to keep it there until it is safe, at least somewhat safe for the public in general, and I am sorry the time is so short.

3 There's a lot more I'd like to share with you, including that the earth moves continually, and if you'd like an interesting experiment sometime, check on the Web and see how many earthquakes there are in California and you will see one probably everyday. My son did this and printed out a list and I was amazed that our earth continually moves each and everyday. Thank you very much and thank you for upgrading the time that I can get home now.